

Cover Letter

As approved on February 19, 2021

MEMBERS IN FAVOR

Vote 9-0

PCCEP Recommendation on appropriate identification for Police Officers.

Officer identification, which can be easily seen, is necessary for procedural justice. People should have the right to identify officers who act inappropriately.

I support Chief Lovell's direct order to require, in crowd management situations, that all officers wear regular patrol-issued helmets with large Crowd Incident Management Numbers on both the front and back. The same three-digit numbers will be assigned to officers for their career as a sworn member of the Portland Police Bureau, and will only be used in crowd management situations.

As the City of Portland is the employer of Police officers, we must also consider their safety as it relates to their work, while ensuring procedural justice for our community members.

If it becomes clear that Crowd Incident Management Numbers on helmets are not satisfactory for identifying officers in crowd management situations, I will direct the Portland Police Bureau to review alternative methods for identifying officers.

Outside of crowd control situations, officers are required, by Portland Police Bureau policy, to have their name visible on their outer-most uniform. The Portland Police Bureau is moving towards larger cloth name tags for all officers. On a case by case basis, officers may wear their personnel number on their outer-most uniform, with authorization from the Chief of Police.



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There is pending legislation at the State that would require officers to wear their badges with names and numbers.

The Portland Police Bureau will maintain the PCCEP's recommendation for DIR 312.50, (1.2.1) and (2.3) for the next review of the directive. The policy does not designate the size of the identification number, nor the name, so it did not require an immediate change when Chief Lovell issued the direct order for larger identification numbers. The Bureau does not include the names of Chiefs of Police in their directives because of the transitional nature of that position.

Per the PCCEP recommendation of officers carrying their bureau-issued identification card on them while on duty, officers are required to do so, which is reflected in a Portland Police Bureau directive.

This recommendation is adopted in part.

Adopted: _

2/22/2021

Mayor Wheeler

Date



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